

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV ENRG PE
SUBJ: GULF OIL OPERATIONS IN PERU

REF: A. LIMA 1941, B. LIMA 2884

1. ECONOFF SPOKE JUNE 7 WITH LOCAL GULF LAWYER RAUL FERRERO REGARDING STATE OF PLAY OF PERUVIAN LEGISLATION THAT WOULD RESCIND BAN ON GULF'S OPERATIONS IN PERU (REFTELS). FERRERO SAID ORIGINAL DRAFT HAD OBTAINED FAVORABLE OPINION OF ALL MINISTRIES BUT PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SENT IT BACK TO ENERGY AND MINES MINISTRY FOR CHANGES IN FORMAT. FERRERO SAID THAT SUBSTANCE OF DRAFT LEGISLATION DID NOT HAVE TO BE CHANGED. LEGISLATION HAS BEEN REDRAFTED TO MEET PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE'S REQUIREMENTS AND ONCE ENERGY AND MINES BUREAUCRACY CLEARS OFF ON THE DRAFT IT CAN GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, SINCE OTHER MINISTRIES HAVE ALREADY APPROVED IN SUBSTANCE. FERRERO SAID THAT HE MET JUNE 1 WITH ENERGY AND MINES MINISTER SANCHEZ WHO SAID HE WOULD TAKE PERSONAL INTEREST IN MATTER AND EXPEDITE ACTION ON THE DRAFT LEGISLATION. FERRERO BELIEVES THAT LEGISLATION COULD BE ON COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' AGENDA AS EARLY AS JUNE 13 COUNCIL MEETING, BUT HE EXPRESSED HIS FEELING THAT ENERGY AND MINES BUREAUCRACY WILL NOT MOVE
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QUICKLY ENOUGH TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

2. IN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE ENERGY AND MINES TO ACT PROMPTLY, ECON OFF SPOKE SUBSEQUENTLY WITH VICE MINISTER SAETTONE. SAETTONE CONFIRMED ABOVE REPORT ON STATUS OF LEGISLATION AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR CONCERN IN MATTER. HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE BUREAUCRATIC

INEFFICIENCY WHICH HAS CAUSED DELAY IN APPROVAL OF THE
LEGISLATION AND ASKED THAT WE BE PATIENT A WHILE LONGER.
WHEN ECON OFF ASKED IF LEGISLATION MIGHT BE ON COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS' JUNE 13 AGENDA, SAETTONE SAID HE WAS
DOUBTFUL BUT THAT HE WOULD TRY TO PUSH THINGS ALONG.

3. COMMENT: WE, TOO, ARE DOUBTFUL THAT LEGISLATION
WILL REACH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS BY JUNE 13. WHILE
PERUVIANS SEEM PREPARED TO APPROVE THE LEGISLATION,
OUR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE LEADS US TO BELIEVE IT WILL
BE SEVERAL MORE WEEKS BEFORE THE APPROPRIATE DECREE
LAW IS ISSUED.

DECON 6-7-79. SHLAUDEMAN

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